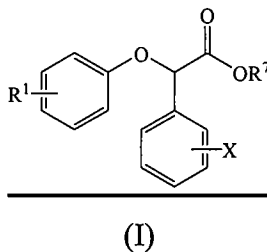


Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 56 with the following amended paragraph:

- - The present invention provides a method for producing an enantiomerically enriched α -(phenoxy)phenylacetic acid compound of the formula (I):



from its enantiomeric mixture, where R^1 is alkyl or haloalkyl, **R^7 is heteroalkyl** and X is halide. -